

The News-Journal

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Hoke County's Only Newspaper

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Raeford Man Is Clever Sculptor

Work of W. T. Covington Wins Hearty Praise From Lorado Taft

(Chapel Hill Weekly)
The recent visit to the campus of Lorado Taft, world famous sculptor and architect, has brought to light a new and entirely original field of artistic endeavor in rural North Carolina which has been secretly flourishing for some time. This discovery is of great interest to the State as a whole, and especially to the University of North Carolina, where an attempt is now being made to install a school of fine arts. It is especially interesting when it is considered that this movement in art is being led by an agriculturist—a farmer and member of a well-known Hoke County family.

Mr. Covington never went to college, nor has he ever had any artistic training whatsoever, having devoted his time to farming from early youth. It was not to be expected, then, that he would ever develop any liking for, or knowledge of, sculptural art. However, many years ago, he became interested in sculpture and has been enthusiastically spending all spare hours in this field ever since.

Some time ago Mr. Covington, having read of the wide reputation of Lorado Taft as an excellent judge of sculpture and architecture, wrote to Mr. Taft sending him photographs of some of his work and asking him his opinion as to its merit. At that time, Mr. Taft wrote Covington, expressing himself as being most pleased with some of the work, especially with a fountain which the Raeford man had created in front of his home, and desirous of making Covington's acquaintance in the future. So when Mr. Covington heard that Mr. Taft was to lecture at the University, he drove up from his home to hear the lecturer and also brought with him several samples of his work.

Upon examining the samples, Mr. Taft and Dr. Harland, head of the department of archaeology at the University, were enthusiastic in the commendation of the simplicity and perfection of the work. The technique of Mr. Covington's sculpture is entirely original, and different from that generally in fashion for the day, as is his theme and subject matter, which is entirely composed of the local atmosphere of the farm and countryside—a line of thought never heretofore thoroughly developed. One of the pieces which he brought was the "Hog Caller." It consisted of four figures—the farmer, two pigs, and a trough. The piece is very realistic. The farmer stands with his hand to his mouth, calling the herd of swine, one of the pigs is awaiting the filling of trough and the other stands with head turned in the direction of the rest of the herd, as if anxiously desiring the arrival of his companions, so that the feast might begin. The very simplicity and truth of this piece is its most striking merit.

Another piece of the same kind which is extremely good is that of a mother saying prayers with her child at her knees. Mr. Covington's technique in developing these pieces and in the materials he uses are entirely original. He uses Vermont marble, which he crushes up into powder and then mixes with cement, which preparation results in a beautiful and easily-workable substance. He invented this process himself, although others, unknown to him, had done it before. Perhaps Mr. Covington's best piece is that of the "Pasant Woman," a set containing three figures. These figures are those of a little boy, his dog, and a woman plainly of peasant birth and occupation. The lifelike veracity of this piece is its outstanding feature. The woman's bent and toil-worn body, the face lined and serried with wrinkles, the boy's youth and freshness, all go to prove one thing about it—truth!

Mr. Covington has used another of his self-invented preparations in the perfection of this work, which enhances its value very much, it is a bronzing preparation which gives to the piece a hardness of outline and of "soul," which is so necessary to pieces of this general theme type.

This founding of a new school of sculptural art in North Carolina is in direct contrast to the opinion of the contrast to the opinion of the country and state that North Carolina is merely a rural district where people are interested solely in tobacco business, in milling, and in general, in the "Almighty Dollar." It proves that even on the farm and in the factory a man can develop a soul for art.

Mr. Covington has a son who is doing excellent work in the University law school now. He is a graduate of Davidson College, where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and also a member of Phi Beta Kappa; thence he went to Princeton University where he took a B. A. in philosophy with honors, returning to the Carolina law school.

Raeford Recorder's Court Has Busy Day on Tuesday

Several Cases Continued For Another Week For Various Reasons

In Recorder's Court Tuesday the first jury trial during the present term of the Recorder was held when Walter Siler, Frank Reid, Jr., and Reid McKinney were tried on a charge of violating the prohibition laws. The following six men sat in the jury box and tried the case: J. H. Austin, E. G. Hodgkin, J. C. Thomas, F. K. Watson, Milton Parks, and Hugh Parks. Evidence in the case tended to show that the three defendants were overtaken on the Fayetteville road with three half gallon fruit jars of whisky in a Ford coupe driven by Walter Siler. Reid and McKinney gave leg bail and were not caught until they came in and surrendered to the officers a few days later. Siler, when overtaken by the officers, made no effort to escape and admitted that part of the whisky belonged to him. He pleaded guilty to the possession of a part of it in court and the other two insisted that they had no part in the transaction, being only disinterested passengers in the car. McKinney, however, in jumping from the car carried one jar of whisky with him until he dropped it after going some ten or fifteen steps. The jury found both Reid and McKinney guilty. Each was given a sentence of four months on the roads, judgment to be suspended upon a payment of a fine of ten dollars and the costs and provided neither was found guilty of violating any of the prohibition laws for a term of two years. Prayer for judgment was continued in the case of Siler upon payment of the costs.

Another case stated Frank Reid in the face, he having been indicted on a charge of driving a car while intoxicated last Sunday night. After the first witness for the state had testified his counsel stated that he would not resist a verdict of guilty, costs and forbidden to drive a car. He was fined fifty dollars and the case was continued for three months. A companion with him on the occasion of the driving, one Lewis Hunter, entered a plea of guilty to the charge of being drunk and was taxed with the costs.

Three young white men, W. R. Culbertson, Bill McKinnon, and J. R. Dawkins, of Richmond County, were tried on a charge of violating the prohibition laws and all found guilty. The case was the outcome of a joy ride recently when these three men with three girls came through Raeford and were followed by officer Howell and Frank Tapp. The driver appeared to be drunk and after driving around the car near Rockfish Creek, Messrs. Tapp and Howell pulled in front of them in order to halt them. However, Culbertson, who was driving preferred to go on and in attempting to pass the other car ran off a fill at the creek. Culbertson and Dawkins were pretty well tanked up and a small quantity of whisky was found in the car. All three men were locked up and charges preferred against them. Prayer for judgment was continued in each case upon payment of the costs. Culbertson pleaded guilty to a charge of operating a car while intoxicated and was fined fifty dollars and the costs and ordered not to drive a car anywhere in this state for three months.

Several other cases were continued for another week for various reasons.

Federal Board Vocational Statistics

Raleigh, June 24.—Figures sent out by the Federal Board for Vocational Education show that of every 100 farm boys in North Carolina between the ages of 14 and 20, 52 are out of school and 48 are in school, according to Roy H. Thomas, State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture. The Federal Board for Vocational Education statistics show that the farm boys between the ages of 14 and 20 number 111,939 and that they comprise 14.7 per cent of the state's entire male population. Of this number 54,055 are attending school while 57,884 are out of school.

Of the 54,055 who are in school only one out of 11 is receiving training designed to prepare him for the business of farming and life on the farm. This specific training or life on the farm is being given by departments of vocational agriculture in 154 high schools.

A survey of 1,000 farm boys in 33 counties of the state shows that the average North Carolina farm boy out of school between the ages of 14 and 21 is about 18 1-2 years of age and has an education midway between the seventh and eighth grades. Of these boys out of school, 64 per cent (nearly two-thirds) work on the farm as helpers; 28 per cent get a share of the crop, and eight per cent are part owners. The survey also reveals that of every 100 boys out of school on the farm now, 51 left school to help at home; 41 dropped out of school because of dissatisfaction with school; 12 left to make money; poor health and failure in school work caused six to leave, and

Hoke Forest Wardens Make Good Record

Two years ago Hoke County had not known except from the experience of other counties of the fine work that was being done in suppressing and preventing forest fires by the North Carolina Forest Service. To-day Hoke County knows! The organization in this County is one of the finest in the State and the people can well feel proud of the work that has been done through the unselfish and untiring efforts of these fire fighters.

The past Spring has been one of the worst in the history of the State Forest Service and this has been true not only of the State of North Carolina, but all the States along the Eastern Seaboard and even into Canada. Unusually high winds even for the Spring season were encountered, and this added to the fact that there has been a dry period amounting almost to a drought, through the greater part of the Spring season, has placed the forests in great danger from their worst enemy, fire. Handicapped as they have been, through weather conditions, the wardens have been very much on the job, and their work is reflected in the small burned area in the County.

Those people who have given the matter any thought, and they have been only too few until recent years, all agree that the greatest boon that can be bestowed upon a landowner is to keep fires out of his woodlands. Since the work was undertaken in the County thru the present efficient Board of County Commissioners there has been a great deal of improvement shown in the protection of forest areas and the way in which landowners and the general public has responded to the work of the forest wardens show that they are standing fully back of this work. Any citizen of the County can remember when fires from the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad and from the Fort Bragg area were an every day occurrence during the Spring fire season. What has become of these fires? The answer is this! Thru co-operation with the Hoke County Forest Service the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad has taken every possible precaution to prevent the escape and spread of fires thru its locomotives. So well have the officials co-operated with the wardens that not a single fire has escaped from their right-of-way this year. Only one fire came from the Camp area and that was quickly brought under control by the Wardens. This is indeed a different picture from what other springs have shown.

As stated before, the citizens can well feel proud of their County Forest Organization. The men who are acting as wardens are the highest type of citizens to be found in the County, being landowners themselves, they have shown a determined effort to eliminate forest fires from their districts. The fine work done by this fine body of men should have the support of every citizen who has the future welfare of their County at heart. The fact that Hoke County must go outside for its lumber supplies proves how much this work is needed in the County.

The cost to the County of carrying out this great work has been less than two hundred dollars the organization has been functioning in the County. This has been less than the damage that has often been done by one fire thru the Spring Season in the County. The work which has been done in the County and the satisfactory results that have been achieved well for the wardens who are in charge of the work, and warrants the full co-operation of every good citizen of the County. There is no reason why the work should not show even more satisfactory results thru the coming season, as the wardens have become more familiar with the work and the use of the fire fighting equipment. Hoke County is one of the best equipped Counties in the District at the present time and no new purchase of equipment will be needed this year.

W. A. PETERSON,
District Forester, N. C.
Dept. Conservation and Development, Division of Forestry, Fayetteville, N. C.

Undergoes Serious Operation Successful

His many friends are gratified to know that Mr. D. Scott Poole underwent successfully a very serious operation in High Smith Hospital last Friday. Latest accounts indicate that he is getting along very nicely.

A CORRECTION

In entering the notices of candidates for the second primary in last week's issue, this paper unintentionally left out the names of Messrs. W. W. Roberts and E. L. Peck. These will be found elsewhere in this issue and their failure to appear last week was no fault of these candidates.

only one of the 100 graduated from high school.

Temporary Receiver Raeford Cotton Mills

Veteran Mill Man To Have Active Charge—Better Times For Mill Predicted

The Peoples Bank and Trust Company, of Wilmington, was appointed temporary receiver of the Raeford Cotton Mills of this place, this week and now has charge of the property. They have secured Mr. C. W. Seate, veteran mill man of this place, to take active charge of the property for them. Just what the future plans of this receiver are, are not known at present but it is hoped that some disposition will be made of the property which will pello good things for Raeford. This mill has been in financial difficulties for several years, due to depressed conditions in the textile industry. It has been running on part time, at best, and the condition of the operatives has been distressing at times, due to lack of employment and low wages. The charitable organizations of the town have been looking after many of the families and have done splendid service in relieving suffering.

Local people will be especially glad that Mr. Seate is to have a hand in winding up the affairs of this mill for he is better acquainted with it than anyone else and can be counted on to do all in his power to get it under way again and make it an asset to the community.

McNeills Gather In Annual Session

Cape Fear Group Has Meeting At Ardussa; Greetings From McNeill, of Barra

Fayetteville, June 20.—The Clan McNeill of the two Carolinas will hold its next meeting at the Old Bluff Church on McNeill's Bluffs, 12 miles north of Fayetteville on the banks of the Cape Fear River. The Cape Fear Sons of the Clan McNeill Association of America, in annual session at Ardussa, Wednesday, voted to meet next in October of this year and selected as the meeting place "The Bluff," the most ancient shrine of religious, historic and family associations in all the Upper Cape Fear country.

Judge J. P. McNeill, of Florence, S. C., was re-elected president of the Cape Fear Sept, which embraces the two Carolinas and is a branch of the Clan McNeill of America. All other officers were re-elected also. These are: N. H. McGeachy, of Fayetteville, vice-president; Mrs. Hannah McNeill, of Barra, secretary; and Miss Mary McEachern, of Red Springs, treasurer.

Greetings were received from McNeill, of Barra, chieftain of the McNeill clans of all the world. His home is, of course, in Scotland. H. H. McNeill, of New York, president of the clan association of America, also sent greetings to the Cape Fear McNeills, as did R. H. McNeill, of Washington, D. C.

It was voted to inaugurate a campaign for additional members. Five new members were welcomed at this meeting. They were: Mrs. Lula McAllister Goodwin, of Greensboro; Robert Bruce McNeill, of Florence, S. C.; and Mrs. Janie McNeill Tomlinson, Miss Sallie W. Tomlinson and Miss Flora Boyce, of Fayetteville.

Hector McNeill, of Florence, S. C., was elected as a delegate to attend the national meeting of the Clan McNeill of America.

Among the McNeill descendants present was Dr. Alexander Graham, of Charlotte, who has been made an honorary member for life. This beloved son of Cumberland County, one of the most distinguished products of the Cape Fear Scotch, makes it an annual custom to attend these meetings while on his Summer outing on his native heath. As usual, he added much to the interest and merriment of the occasion with his anecdotes of the early Scottish settlers.

The meeting at Ardussa was one of the most enjoyable that has been held. Everything was perfectly informal, just a big gathering of clan-like kinfolk. A picnic dinner was spread under the trees of the beautiful old place that has been the home of McNeills for a century and a half.

"Black Neill" McNeill was the pioneer settler and colonizer of the Upper Cape Fear River, bringing the first colonists here 200 years ago. He was also the founder of Fayetteville, at first named Campbellton. It is said that the shipload of Highlanders he brought at that time was to settle at Wilmington, but the authorities there required each of these fierce-looking, kilt-clad strangers to post a bond of \$250 to keep the peace. This they refused to do, and moved on up the river. There were two distinct families of McNeills who helped largely to people this section, the "Black" McNeills and the "Red" McNeills, so called from the latter word meaning blonde. Jennie Bessie McNeill, a picturesque and very remarkable woman, was the only one of the latter group.

Funeral Service Held For D. P. Johnson

Lumberton, N. C., June 25th.—Funeral services were conducted from the home of his son-in-law and daughter, Prof. and Mrs. J. R. Poole, here Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock for Mr. D. B. Johnson, 73, who died at his home at Atkinson, Pender county, Friday night at 6 o'clock after an illness lasting since Sunday before with heart trouble.

Engaged for a number of years in the lumber business, Mr. Johnson had been living in retirement for the past 4 years. While he had been in failing health for some time, his condition did not become serious until 6 days before his death. A member of Atkinson Presbyterian church, deceased lived consecrated Christian life.

The obsequies were attended by a large number of people, a number of out-of-town people being present. Simple but impressive were the rites conducted by Dr. C. S. Matthews, pastor of the Presbyterian church, assisted by Dr. G. E. Moorehouse, of Laurinburg, former pastor. At the home a choir composed of Messrs. Lacy McKenzie, C. B. Skipper, John Brown, Hugh McAllister, Jr., William Parmele, Duval Lennon, Mesdames M. F. Cobb, O. O. Dukes and N. A. McLean, with Miss Lina Gough at the piano, rendered "How Firm a Foundation," "Lead Kindly Light" and "Rock of Ages." The body was taken to Union church, Moore county, in the old home community of deceased for burial.

Active pallbearers were Mr. J. D. McAllister (Lumberton), Dr. Seavy Highsmith of Fayetteville, Mr. Garnett Brooks of Red Springs, Messrs. Clyde Upchurch, Julian and Fred Johnson of Raeford. Honorary pallbearers, elders and deacons of the First Presbyterian church here were: Messrs. H. B. Jennings, H. M. McAllister, W. K. Bethune, A. T. McLean, J. P. Russell, L. McK. Parker, Sandy McLeod, J. H. Barrington, W. J. Ritter, T. A. McNeill, J. D. Norment, Lacy McKenzie, John Blount, A. V. G. Wishart and Teddie Joyce. The grave was banked with a profusion of lovely floral designs. Flowers were borne by Mesdames R. H. Crichton, W. F. Baxer, John Knox, H. E. Stacy, J. L. Stephens, Misses Theresa Patterson and Laura Norment.

Surviving are his widow and the following 5 children: Mrs. J. R. Poole and Dr. T. C. Johnson of Lumberton, Mrs. W. D. Marley of Lumber Bridge, Messrs. James D. and Sam Johnson of Atlanta, Ga. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on March 6, 1929.

Among Atkinson folks attending the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. DeVane Murphy, Mesdames N. W. Woodcock and James Colvin. Messrs. Dan Fridgen, J. A. Murphy, T. A. Smith, H. Y. Reaves and A. H. Prigden.

EDITORS' NOTE:—Mr. Johnson was one of the pioneer lumber men of this section, coming to Timberland in the early days of the lumber business in what is now Hoke County. He was with the firm of Britton & Johnson who operated at Timberland one of the largest mills ever in Hoke County. At a later time he operated a lumber plant in Raeford and in other parts of the county. He was a man who made friends easily and had the faculty of holding them. He was a brother of the late J. W. Johnson of Raeford and the late W. J. Johnson of Red Springs and leaves many relatives in this section.

Will Render Service To Cotton Planters

W. B. Callahan, State College student, who has finished his junior year in the Entomological course at that institution, arrived in Raeford Monday and will represent the Planters Produce and Storage Co., of Florence, S. C., in Hoke, Harnett and Cumberland counties during the summer. He has been in the county all of this week, will be in Harnett next week and back here again week after next, spending the entire summer in these three counties.

The company that Mr. Callahan represents distributes insecticides, fungicides and dusting machinery. In connection with the distribution of these things Mr. Callahan will make infestation counts and render any service that he can. He is working in cooperation with County Agent L. B. Brandon. In some counts made in the county this week he has found some fields with high infestation. In a sixty acre field of Mr. W. J. McDiarmid he found an infestation of 25 per cent. In another field on the same farm he found an infestation of 11.3 per cent. In a field of Mrs. Sarah Campbell where the cotton was too small for infestation counts he made a population count and found 240 weevils per acre. In three fields on farms of Mr. A. P. Stubbs he found the infestation to be 9.7 per cent, 26 per cent and 31.7 per cent. He states that there are plenty of weevils to be found wherever he has made counts and

Democrats Hold Meeting Saturday In Court House

Some dozen or so Democrats met at the Court house last Saturday and held the usual precinct meeting. The following were selected as a precinct executive committee to serve for the next two years: W. A. McLean, Edgar Hall, J. B. Thomas, S. A. Sneed and J. W. Currie. All of those attending were selected as delegates to represent the precinct in the county convention which will be held Saturday, the 28th, at 2 o'clock in the court house. Little interest was manifested in the precinct meeting this year since nothing but routine matters were to come up.

Reports from the other voting precincts of the county are unavailable and it is not known how many precincts held meetings. All of the precincts, however, are expected to have delegates at the county convention Saturday. After the meeting of the convention the county executive committee will be formed, this committee being composed of the chairmen of the various precinct committees of the county. A chairman and a secretary will be selected at this meeting.

The convention Saturday will transact such business as it sees fit and select delegates to the state convention which will convene in Raleigh next Thursday, July 3rd.

59 Unemployed in Hoke Says Census

According to census figures just released by district supervisor W. C. Downing of Fayetteville, there are 59 persons in Hoke County who usually work at a gainful occupation who were reported on the unemployment schedule as without a job, but who were looking for a job.

Listed according to townships they are as follows: Little River, none; Stonewall, one; Raeford, forty-three; Quenahatchee, four; McAllister, one; Blue Springs, one; Antioch, one; and Ardussa, five.

These figures are preliminary and subject to correction, and will be supplemented later by data for other classes of persons not at work at the time of the census, such as those who had a job but were sick or temporarily laid off.

Boy Scouts Working Hard To Pass Tests

The local Boy Scouts are concentrating this week on study of scout craft with a view to passing tests to become second class scouts. Nathan Epstein was the first scout to pass these tests and comes in for some prizes offered for the first one to pass. He also gets a three weeks trip to the Council Camp near Dunn where he will aid in drilling tenderfoot scouts. With the completion of their hut in Raeford the boys seem to be renewing their activities and interest and they all seem bent on raising their scout standing. On Tuesday afternoon Scoutmaster F. B. Sexton and Assistant Alfred Cole took the troop out to the Country Club where they went through tests in cooking, tracking and other scout craft. They remained for supper and had a pleasant outing of it.

When Raeford Man Moves Town Loses Good Citizen

A host of friends and neighbors in Raeford and Hoke County regret that Mr. and Mrs. George Fuller have moved to Hickory, where they will make their home. Mr. Fuller is going into the retail furniture business here will be continued under the management of Mr. Z. Paul, of Aberdeen, who with his family have moved into the Paul Dickson residence on Prospect Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Fuller will be sorely missed in Raeford, where they have been prominent in the various activities of the community for a long time.

Cotton Blossoms

Cotton blossoms reported to the News-Journal thus far were by Mr. G. C. Lytle, who farms in the Northern edge of Raeford and who had some exceptionally fine cotton. He found a bloom on the 23rd.

Alfred Hart, who farms on the Gastin farm about three miles North of Raeford reported a blossom on the 21st. Sim Peterkin, colored, who farms near gold hill reported one on the 23rd.

Beware of the man whose story sounds too good.

JOE GISH: "Near as I can figure it, a fanatic is a fellow that's on the other side of the fence from you."

advise the use of poison to control the situation. This service is free to any who may call on him.